

REMARKS

Claims 1-24 have been cancelled. Claims 30-32 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite for failure to provide a proper antecedent basis. Claims 30 and 31 have been amended to provide a proper antecedent basis. As claim 32 depends from claim 31, which in turn depends from claim 30, the amendments to claims 30 and 31 also provide a proper antecedent basis for claim 32. Accordingly, claims 30-32 as amended are believed to have overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection.

Claims 25-32 presently stand rejected. Independent claims 25 and 26 presently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schleppenbach (U.S. Patent No. 6,705,868). Claims 27-28, which depend from claim 26, similarly stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Schleppenbach. Claim 29, which depends from claim 26, stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schleppenbach. Independent claim 30, and its dependent claims 31-32, also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schleppenbach.

Claims 25-28 – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Independent claims 25 and 26 have been amended to recite that cap "encases" the assembly, as opposed to merely covering the assembly as described in Schleppenbach. Schleppenbach does not disclose or describe at least this claim limitation.

Schleppenbach discloses a top plate member **22** of a Braille cell cap, wherein the top plate member **22** is secured over upstanding pins **34** (note Fig. 2). The top plate member **22** is connected to a midplate member **26** and a circuit board **28** by way of fasteners **26**. See Figs. 1 and 2; Paragraph 0036. Unlike the present invention, Schleppenbach does not disclose a monolithic Braille cap that encases the Braille cell pins. Rather, Schleppenbach discloses placing a sheet, the top plate member **22**, over the cell pins. The monolithic cell cap of the present invention, however, encases the cell pins, so that the pins are more protected.

Accordingly, because claims 25 and 26 require encasing the cell pins, as opposed to just covering them such as in Schleppenbach, claims 25 and 26 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

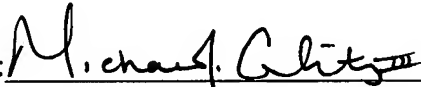
Claims 27-28, which are dependent on claim 26, and thus incorporate the above inventive limitation, are also believed to be in condition for allowance. Accordingly, claims 25-28 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 29-32 – 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 29 depends on claim 26, and thus incorporates the inventive limitations discussed above. Accordingly, claim 29 is believed to be in condition for allowance. Similarly, independent claim 30 has been amended to recite: "such that the cell cap encases the Braille display." As discussed above, Schleppenbach does not disclose or describe at least this claim limitation. Claims 31-32 depend from claim 30 and therefore incorporate this inventive feature as well. Accordingly, claims 29-32 are believed to be in condition for allowance.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1667.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Amendment A was placed in an envelope and mailed via U.S. Express Mail, postage prepaid to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this the 6th day of August, 2007.


Michael J. Colitz, III

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